

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 02676 182116Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05
TRSE-00 IO-14 AID-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 /090 W
-----022101 182120Z /73

O R 182000Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4596
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LISBON P
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 2676

LONDON FOR ARA DAS BUSHNELL

PANAMA FOR ROBERT PASTOR, NSC

EO 11652 NA
TAGS: PINT PINS, DR
SUB: POST-ELCTION STATEMENT OF SANTIAGO GROUP

1. TEN OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL RELIGIOUS, ACADEMIC
PROFESSIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL LEADERS OF SANTIAGO, DOMREP'S
SECOND MOST IMPORTANT CITY, RELEASED A STRONG STATEMENT
CARRIED IN THIS MORNING PRESS REQUESTING THAT THE RIGHTS OF THE
PEOPLE FREELY EXPRESSED IN THE ELECTION BE HONORED.
INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE DECLARATION FOLLOWS:
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QUOTE: TO OUR FELLOW CITIZENS:

WE, CONSCIENTIOUS CITIZENS, PROCCUPIED WITH THE
DESTINY OF OUR COUNTRY, BECAUSE OF THE GRAVITY OF THE
MOMENT CONCERNING THE INTERRUPTION OF THE NORMAL DEVELOP-
MENT OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS, FIND OURSELVES WITH THE

NECESSITY OF ADDRESSING OUR FELLOW CITIZENS WITH THE
GREATEST GOODWILL AND, AT THE SAME TIME, WITH AFFLICTED
SOULS.

(1) THERE WAS AN EXEMPLARY PROCESS OF PREPARATION
FOR THE ELECTIONS AND THE VOTING PROCESS. SUCH A PROCESS
WAS CARRIED OUT WITH HONOR, CIVIL GOODWILL AND RESPECT.
WITHOUT DOUBT THIS HAS BEEN ONE OF THE GREATER ACCOMPLISH-
MENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT HEADED BY DOCTOR JOAQUIN BALAGUER.

(2) THE DOMINICAN PEOPLE WENT TO THE BALLOT BOX IN
A CIVILIZED MANNER AND WITH GREAT CONFIDENCE OF THE RESPECT
THAT WOULD BE GIVEN TO THE RIGHT TO VOTE. A SPIRIT OF
POPULAR REJOICING WAS NOTED IN THE FULFILLMENT OF A NATIONAL
RIGHT.

(3) BUT THIS SAME PEOPLE HAS SEEN WITH AMAZEMENT AND
ASTONISHMENT HOW THE ELECTION PROCESS WAS INTERRUPTED IN THE
PRECISE MOMENT THAT A SUBSTANTIAL LEAD OF ONE PARTY WAS
NOTED, TRAMPLING THE INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS ESTABLISHED BY
THE STATE TO GUARANTEE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ELECTIONS.

(4) WE MUST, WITH GOODWILL, ALERT THOSE RESPONSIBLE
TO THE CONSEQUENCES OF THAT INEXPLICABLE ACTION WHICH:

A) DENATURALIZES AND CONTRADICTS THE DEMOCRATIC
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DESIRES EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT BALAGUER.
B) WOUNDS AND STRIKES PROFOUNDLY THE EXPECTATIONS
AND THE FAITH OF THE DOMINICAN PEOPLE IN DEMOCRACY, ALONG
WITH GREAT INSTITUTIONAL DAMAGE TO SOCIETY AND TO THE
DEVELOPMENTAL PROCESS ACTUALLY EXPERIENCED IN THE COUNTRY.
C) PROPITIATES THE UPSURING OF VIOLENCE AND CIVIC
AGITATION.

WE THEREFORE REQUEST THAT THOSE RESPONSIBLE RESPECT
THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE AND RETURN TO THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL
BOARD THE RIGHT OF ITS FREE AND OPEN CAPACITY TO ACT.

WE EXHORT THOSE PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ELECTO-
RAL STRIFE, TO OVERCOME WITH PATRIOTISM THE TENSIONS AND TO
MAINTAIN MUTUAL RESPECT, RECOGNIZING THE REALITY OF THE
FACTS REFLECTED IN THE BALLOT BOXES. UNQUOTE.

2. SIGNATORIES INCLUDE MONSEIGNOR ROQUE ADAMES, BISHOP
OF SANTIAGO; VICTOR ESPAILLAT, AND BUSINESSMAN AND PRESIDENT
OF SANTIAGO FREE ZONE ARTURO GRULLON, BANKER; MONSEIGNOR
AGRIPINO NUNEZ COLLADO, RECTOR OF MADRE
Y MAESTRA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY; J. ARMANDO BERMUDEZ, INDUS-

TRIALIST: AND FOUR OTHER LEADING SANTIAGO PROFESSIONALS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, COMMUNIQUES, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANTO02676
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780210-0279
Format: TEL
From: SANTO DOMINGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780544/aaaablim.tel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5dc0309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2650353
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POST-ELCTION STATEMENT OF SANTIAGO GROUP
TAGS: PINT, PINS, DR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5dc0309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014